

**San Antonio
Metropolitan Health
District**

**Hotline for Flood
Health Concerns
210-207-2173**



The flooding that has occurred in San Antonio and Bexar County has raised important health concerns in regard to safety, sanitation, and communicable diseases. In those cases where flood waters have come in contact with clothing, furniture, or food items the precautions here should be followed very carefully:

San Antonio
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**332 West Commerce St.
San Antonio, TX 78205**



What to do when the flood is over...



1. Always wash hands after touching items that have been in flood water or sewage, or before preparing food. Wear plastic or latex gloves as much as possible while cleaning.
2. Walls, hard-surfaced floors, and other household surfaces should be cleaned with soap and water and disinfected with a solution of 1 cup of bleach to every five gallons of water (or 4 teaspoons of bleach to every gallon).
3. Clothing soaked in flood waters should be washed separately from other clothes in a hot solution of soap and bleach.
4. The following items that have come in contact with flood waters should be thrown away: Mattresses and pillows, Food items.
5. When the rain has stopped, empty anything around your property that might hold water: flower pots, buckets, bird baths, etc. This prevents the reproduction of mosquitoes.
6. If you have not received a tetanus booster shot within ten years call the hotline number (210-207-2173) for information on where you may receive one or contact your own doctor.
7. Remove all wallboard, sheetrock, and baseboard material in your home that has been in contact with flood waters to at least 12 inches above the waterline. This is done to prevent mold from starting to grow in your home.
8. Babies on infant formula should be given ready-to-feed formula or powdered formula made with bottled water.
9. Do not allow children to play in flood waters. The water may contain sewage, chemicals, or other hazards that could cause severe injury or illness.

The San Antonio Metro Health District will monitor hospitals for any increases in communicable diseases during the aftermath of this flood. For more information on flood concerns, call our hotline: 207-2173.